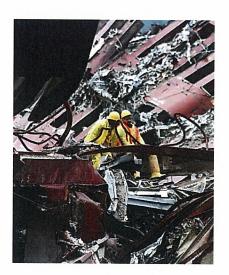
MCIWEST-MCB CAMP PENDLETON 9/11 REMEMBRANCE MESSAGE



At 0846, all installations in the Marine Corps Installations West Region will be directed to take a moment of silence to remember those who lost their lives during the terrorist attacks on Sept. 11, 2001.

It was a day burned into the souls of all old enough to remember that moment when they first saw or heard the news about hijacked planes crashing into the sides of the two towers. Those events called for action, and as a result plunged us into one of the longest wars this country has ever faced. A majority of the men and women fighting in the Marine Corps today signed up after these events, knowing they would likely see battle overseas. As Marines always do, we have risen to the challenge.



It is the spirit of the American people that has helped us overcome this tragic event and has driven us to stay diligent in our efforts to see this war through to the end. Today is a day where we remember those heroes who have fought, some of whom paid the ultimate price with their lives, to ensure this type of tragedy never happens to our country again. We continue to fight this war with tenacity, courage, and pride.



Take time today to reflect on the sacrifices made by those who have willingly and unwillingly lost their lives or loved ones since 9/11. Patriot Day is a day to remember the firefighters, police, first responders, service members and families of the fallen who have paid the price for our freedom.

While the attacks may have caused moments of doubt throughout our lives, America has bounced back. We as Marines have bonded together and are determined to do our part to keep America safe.

JOHN W. BULLARD

Brigadier General, U.S. Marine Corps

Commanding General

Marine Corps Installations West-Marine Corps Base, Camp Pendleton